viii. On 7.4.2001, the Special Task Force, Uttar Pradesh arrested 3 persons for illegal possession of 1 tiger skin and 1 leopard skin at Palia, Kheri. Investigation is in progress.

ix. On 27.4.2001, the Special Task Force, Uttar Pradesh arrested 5 persons for possessing 1 tiger and 19 leopard skin at Kanpur and 5 leopard skin and 10 claws in Lucknow. Investigation is in progress.

x. On 14.5.2001, the Special Task Force, Uttar Pradesh arrested 2 persons for possessing 2 suspected tiger skin at Allahabad. Investigation is in progress.

Development of Environment and Forests

†673. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds allocated to the State of Bihar for the development of Environment and Forests Department during the last three years;

(b) the amount utilised in the State in this regard; and

(c) the details of specific reasons for non-utilisation of funds?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Environment and Forests has released an amount of Rs. 1861.94 lakhs during the last three years to the State of Bihar for the development of Environment and Forests. The amount utilised in the State in this regard is Rs. 1355.39 lakhs during the last three years.

(c) Main reason for non-utilisation of funds is delay in releasing of funds to the implementing agencies by the State.

Sacking of KV Teachers

674. SHRI NAGENDRA NATH OJHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some office-bearers of a recognised association of teachers of Kendriya Vidyalayas were sacked in January, 2001, for organising demonstrations, protest-rallies and burning effigy of Jt. Commissioner in August, 1999, after school hours and outside KVs premises;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.